

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Abraham et al.

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TITLE: HAIR CLIPPER WITH PIVOTING CLIPPER HEAD ASSEMBLY

Attorney Docket No.: 833.0168USQ

Assistant Commissioner For Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 9, 11, 12 and 13 and amend the remaining claims as follows:

1. (Amended) A hair clipper comprising:

a clipper head having a cutting assembly;

a handle having a longitudinal axis; and a head connector for connecting the clipper head and the handle such that the clipper head pivots about an axis of rotation that is perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the handle,

wherein the clipper head can be fixedly positioned in any one of at least three preset pivot positions.

2. (Amended) The hair clipper of claim 1, wherein the head connector comprises:

at least one arm disposed on the handle and offset from the longitudinal axis of the handle;

a first connector disposed on the at least one arm; and

a second connector positioned on the clipper head,

wherein the first and second connectors join the clipper head to the arm of the handle such that the clipper head pivots about the axis of rotation.

3. (Amended) The hair clipper of claim 1, wherein the head connector is adapted to join the clipper head and the handle such that the clipper head is securely positioned in any one of the preset pivoted positions.

4. (Amended) The hair clipper of claim 3, wherein the head connector comprises:

at least one arm disposed on the handle and offset from the longitudinal axis of the handle;

a first connector disposed on the at least one arm; and

a second connector positioned on the clipper head,

wherein the first and second connectors join the clipper head to the arm of the handle such that the clipper head pivots about the axis of rotation and such that the clipper head is securely positioned in any one of the plurality of pivoted positions.

5. (Amended) The hair clipper of claim 4, wherein the first connector is a first gear, the second connector is a second gear, and the head connector includes a releasing mechanism for meshing and unmeshing the first gear and the second gear, such that when the first gear is meshed with the second gear the clipper head is

secured in any one of the pivot positions, and when the first gear is unmeshed from the second gear the clipper head is pivotable about the axis of rotation.

6. (Amended) The hair clipper of claim 5, wherein the releasing mechanism for meshing and unmeshing comprises a release button adapted to mesh the first gear with the second gear and adapted to be depressed to unmash the first gear from the second gear.

7. (Amended) The hair clipper of claim 1, wherein the cutting assembly is operatively connected to a motor.

8. (Amended) The hair clipper of claim 7, wherein the handle further comprises:

a switch having an on position and an off position, and

a cord with a plug,

wherein the motor is operatively connected to the cord when the switch is in the on position such that power flows to the motor from a standard household electrical outlet that receives the plug.

10. (Amended) The hair clipper of claim 9, wherein the handle further comprises:

a switch having an on position and an off position, and

a plug,

wherein the motor is operatively connected to the battery when the switch is in the on position such that power flows from the battery to the motor.

14. (Amended) A hair clipper comprising:

a clipper head having pivot points positioned on opposite sides of the head, a stationary blade having teeth and a reciprocating blade having teeth, wherein the teeth of the stationary blade are substantially parallel to the teeth of the reciprocating blade forming a cutting edge; and

a handle having a longitudinal axis, a pair of arms, a connector disposed on each arm, and a mechanism for reciprocating the reciprocating blade such that hair positioned within the teeth of the stationary blade are cut by the teeth of the reciprocating blade,

wherein each connector is adapted to engage one of the pivot points such that the clipper head is pivotable about an axis of rotation perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the handle and parallel to the cutting edge.

15. (Amended) The hair clipper of claim 14, wherein the connectors disposed on each arm and the pivot points are adapted to join the clipper head and the handle such that the clipper head is securable in any one of a number of preset pivoted positions.

16. (Amended) The hair clipper of claim 15, further comprising a mechanism for selectively releasing and securing the connectors and the pivot points such that when the connectors and pivot points are secured the clipper head is secured in any one of the plurality of pivoted positions, and when the connectors and pivot points are released the clipper head is pivotable about the axis of rotation.

17. (Amended) The hair clipper of claim 16, wherein the connectors are first gears, the pivot points are second gears, and the releasing and securing mechanism is adapted to release and secure the first gears with the second gears, respectively, such that when the first gears are secured with the second gears the clipper head is secured

in any one of the number of pivoted positions, and when the first gears are released from the second gears the clipper head is pivotable about the axis of rotation.

18. (Amended) The hair clipper of claim 16, wherein the releasing and securing mechanism is a release button adapted to normally secure the connectors and the pivot points, and adapted to be depressed to release the connectors and the pivot points.

19. (Amended) An electric hair clipper comprising:

a clipper head having a cutting assembly with a concentric outer stationary blade, an inner hub and one or more inner blades circumferentially spaced on the inner hub, wherein the outer stationary blade and the inner blades are configured so as to be substantially flush with one another and thereby form a cutting edge;

a handle having a longitudinal axis, a motor operatively connected to the cutting assembly such that hair positioned between the outer blade and the inner blades is cut along the cutting edge; and

a head connector for connecting the clipper head and the handle such that the clipper head pivots about an axis of rotation that is perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the handle.

20. (Amended) The electric hair clipper of claim 19, wherein the head connector is further adapted to join the clipper head and the handle such that the clipper head is securable in any one of a number of preset pivoted positions.

Please add the following claims:

21. A nose and ear hair clipper comprising:

a handle having a longitudinal axis;
a clipper head having a cutting assembly; and
a head connector connecting the clipper head and the handle such that the clipper head pivots about an axis of rotation perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the handle,

wherein the clipper head can be fixedly positioned in any one of a number of pivot positions.

22. The hair clipper of claim 21, wherein the cutting assembly has a concentric outer stationary blade and an inner cylindrical hub with one or more blades circumferentially spaced thereon.

23. The hair clipper of claim 21, wherein the one or more blades and the stationary blade form a cutting edge.

24. The hair clipper of claim 21, wherein the cutting assembly is operatively connected to a motor.

25. The hair clipper of claim 24, wherein the motor is connected to the inner cylindrical hub by a rotating drive shaft driven by the motor.

26. The hair clipper of claim 21, wherein the clipper head has a pair of pivot points positioned on opposite sides of the head.

27. The hair clipper of claim 26, wherein the handle has a pair of arms, a connector disposed on each arm and a mechanism for selectively releasing and securing the connectors and the pivot points such that when the connectors and pivot points are secured the clipper head is secured in any one of the number of pivoted

wherein the battery is operatively connected to the plug and the recharging indicator such that power can flow from a source to recharge the battery and to operate the recharging indicator.

32. The hair clipper of claim 31, wherein the recharging indicator is an illuminating device that illuminates when the battery is charging.

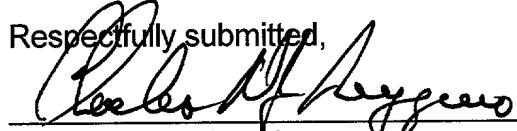
Remarks

Claims 1 through 8, 10, and 14 through 20 remain in the application; claims 9, 11, 12 and 13 have been canceled; and claims 21 through 32 have been newly added.

Attached hereto is a marked up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE."

February 28, 2002
Date

Respectfully submitted,



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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Amended) [An improved] A hair clipper comprising:

a clipper head [including] having a [stationary blade having teeth and a reciprocating blade having teeth, wherein the teeth of the stationary blade are substantially parallel to the teeth of the reciprocating blade forming a cutting edge] cutting assembly;

a handle having a longitudinal axis; and [means] a head connector [for reciprocating the reciprocating blade such that hair positioned within the teeth of the stationary blade are cut by the teeth of the reciprocating blade; and

[means] for connecting the clipper head and the handle such that the clipper head pivots about an axis of rotation that is perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the handle [and parallel to the cutting edge],

wherein the clipper head can be fixedly positioned in any one of at least three preset pivot positions.

2. (Amended) The hair clipper of claim 1, wherein the [connecting means] head connector comprises:

at least one [leg] arm disposed on the handle and offset from the longitudinal axis of the handle;

a first connector disposed on the at least one [leg] arm; and

a second connector positioned on the clipper head,

wherein the first and second connectors join the clipper head to the [leg] arm of the handle such that the clipper head pivots about the axis of rotation.

3. (Amended) The hair clipper of claim 1, wherein the [connecting means] head connector is adapted to join the clipper head and the handle such that the clipper head is [securable] securely positioned in any one of [a plurality of] the preset pivoted positions.

4. (Amended) The hair clipper of claim 3, wherein the [connecting means] head connector comprises:

at least one [leg] arm disposed on the handle and offset from the longitudinal axis of the handle;

a first connector disposed on the at least one [leg] arm; and

a second connector positioned on the clipper head,

wherein the first and second connectors join the clipper head to the [leg] arm of the handle such that the clipper head pivots about the axis of rotation and such that the clipper head is [securable] securely positioned in any one of the plurality of pivoted positions.

5. (Amended) The hair clipper of claim 4, wherein the first connector is a first gear, the second connector is a second gear, and the [connecting means] head connector includes [means] a releasing mechanism for meshing and unmeshing the first gear and the second gear, such that when the first gear is meshed with the second gear the clipper head is secured in any one of the [plurality of pivoted] pivot positions, and when the first gear is unmeshed from the second gear the clipper head is pivotable about the axis of rotation.

6. (Amended) The hair clipper of claim 5, wherein the [means] releasing mechanism for meshing and unmeshing comprises a release button adapted to mesh the first gear with the second gear and adapted to be depressed to unmash the first gear from the second gear.

7. (Amended) The hair clipper of claim 1, wherein the [reciprocating means comprises] cutting assembly is operatively connected to a motor.

8. (Amended) The hair clipper of claim 7, wherein the handle further comprises:

a switch having an on position and an off position, and

a cord with a plug,

wherein the motor is operatively [coupled] connected to the cord when the switch is in the on position such that power flows to the motor from a standard household electrical outlet that receives the plug.

9. (Canceled)

10. (Amended) The hair clipper of claim 9, wherein the handle further comprises:

a switch having an on position and an off position, and

a plug,

wherein the motor is operatively [coupled] connected to the battery when the switch is in the on position such that power flows from the battery to the motor.

11. (Canceled)

12. (Canceled)

13. (Canceled)

14. (Amended) A hair clipper comprising:

a clipper head [including] having pivot points positioned on opposite sides of the

head, a stationary blade having teeth and a reciprocating blade having teeth, wherein the teeth of the stationary blade are substantially parallel to the teeth of the reciprocating blade forming a cutting edge; and

a handle having a longitudinal axis, a pair of [legs] arms, a connector disposed on each [leg] arm, and a [means] mechanism for reciprocating the reciprocating blade such that hair positioned within the teeth of the stationary blade are cut by the teeth of the reciprocating blade,

wherein each connector is adapted to engage one of the pivot points such that the clipper head is pivotable about an axis of rotation perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the handle and parallel to the cutting edge.

15. (Amended) The hair clipper of claim 14, wherein the connectors disposed on each arm and the pivot points are adapted to join the clipper head and the handle such that the clipper head is securable in any one of a [plurality] number of preset pivoted positions.

16. (Amended) The hair clipper of claim 15, further comprising a [means] mechanism for selectively releasing and securing the connectors and the pivot points such that when the connectors and pivot points are secured the clipper head is secured in any one of the plurality of pivoted positions, and when the connectors and pivot points are released the clipper head is pivotable about the axis of rotation.

17. (Amended) The hair clipper of claim 16, wherein the connectors are first gears, the pivot points are second gears, and the releasing and securing [means] mechanism is adapted to release and secure the first gears with the second gears, respectively, such that when the first gears are secured with the second gears the

clipper head is secured in any one of the [plurality] number of pivoted positions, and when the first gears are released from the second gears the clipper head is pivotable about the axis of rotation.

18. (Amended) The hair clipper of claim 16, wherein the releasing and securing [means] mechanism [comprises] is a release button adapted to normally secure the connectors and the pivot points, and adapted to be depressed to release the connectors and the pivot points.

19. (Amended) An electric hair clipper comprising:

a clipper head [including a stationary blade having teeth and a reciprocating blade having teeth, wherein the teeth of the stationary blade are substantially parallel to the teeth of the reciprocating blade forming a cutting edge] having a cutting assembly with a concentric outer stationary blade, an inner hub and one or more inner blades circumferentially spaced on the inner hub, wherein the outer stationary blade and the inner blades are configured so as to be substantially flush with one another and thereby form a cutting edge;

a handle having a longitudinal axis, a motor [for reciprocating the reciprocating blade] operatively connected to the cutting assembly such that hair positioned [within the cutting edge are cut] between the outer blade and the inner blades is cut along the cutting edge; and

[means] a head connector for [joining disposed on] connecting the clipper head and the handle [for joining the clipper head to the handle] such that the clipper head pivots about an axis of rotation that is perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the handle[, parallel to the cutting edge and offset from the cutting edge towards the handle].

20. (Amended) The electric hair clipper of claim 19, wherein the [means for joining] head connector is further adapted to join the clipper head and the handle such that the clipper head is securable in any one of a [plurality] number of preset pivoted positions.

NEW CLAIMS

21. A nose and ear hair clipper comprising:

a handle having a longitudinal axis;

a clipper head having a cutting assembly; and

a head connector connecting the clipper head and the handle such that the clipper head pivots about an axis of rotation perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the handle,

wherein the clipper head can be fixedly positioned in any one of a number of pivot positions.

22. The hair clipper of claim 21, wherein the cutting assembly has a concentric outer stationary blade and an inner cylindrical hub with one or more blades circumferentially spaced thereon.

23. The hair clipper of claim 21, wherein the one or more blades and the stationary blade form a cutting edge.

24. The hair clipper of claim 21, wherein the cutting assembly is operatively connected to a motor.

25. The hair clipper of claim 24, wherein the motor is connected to the inner cylindrical hub by a rotating drive shaft driven by the motor.

26. The hair clipper of claim 21, wherein the clipper head has a pair of pivot points positioned on opposite sides of the head.

27. The hair clipper of claim 26, wherein the handle has a pair of arms, a connector disposed on each arm and a mechanism for selectively releasing and securing the connectors and the pivot points such that when the connectors and pivot points are secured the clipper head is secured in any one of the number of pivoted positions, and when the connectors and pivot points are released the clipper head is pivotable about the axis of rotation.

28. The hair clipper of claim 27, wherein the connectors are first gears, the pivot points are second gears, and the releasing and securing mechanism is adapted to release and secure the first gears with the second gears such that when the first gears are secured with the second gears the clipper head is secured in any one of the number of pivoted positions, and when the first gears are released from the second gears the clipper head is pivotable about the axis of rotation.

29. The hair clipper of claim 27, wherein the releasing and securing mechanism is a release button adapted to normally secure the connectors and the pivot points, and adapted to be depressed to release the connectors and the pivot points.

30. The hair clipper of claim 24, wherein the handle further comprises:

a switch mechanism; and

a cord with a plug,

wherein the motor is operatively connected to the cord by the switch mechanism such that power can be selectively supplied to the motor.

31. The hair clipper of claim 24, further comprising:

a rechargeable battery operatively connected to the motor;

a switch mechanism;

a plug; and

a recharging indicator,

wherein the battery is operatively connected to the plug and the recharging indicator such that power can flow from a source to recharge the battery and to operate the recharging indicator.

32. The hair clipper of claim 31, wherein the recharging indicator is an illuminating device that illuminates when the battery is charging.